



Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
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Week Ending July 25, 2010

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Good Week for Field Work: Some much needed rain in most counties had a positive affect on the wilting crops and dry pastures. There were a few days with hot temperatures and high humidity levels that progressed the deteriorating of corn crops but made for ideal hay and straw baling days. Pennsylvania had a total of 5 days suitable for field work. Primary field activities were haymaking, straw baling, field mowing and harvesting apples, oats, peaches, sweet corn and other various vegetables.

PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending July 25, 2010

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
15	20	64	1

Crop Progress: The average corn silked is 74%, compared to last year's 53% and the 5 year average of 62%. Corn dough averages out at 9% compared to last year's and the average of both 8%. The average corn height is 75 inches tall, compared to last year's 68 inches, and the 5 year average of 72 inches. Oats are 96% yellowed, which is ahead of last year's 85% and the average of 85%. Ripe Oats are at 71%, way ahead of the 5 year average of 41% and last years 33%. Harvested Oats are at 41%, ahead of last year's 11% and the 5 year average of 16%. Soybean Blooming is at 71%, ahead of a 15% average. Soybean pod setting is at 29%, ahead of both last year at zero and the 5 year average of 1%. Alfalfa third cutting is at 49%, well ahead of last year's 17% and the 23% average. Timothy/Clover second cutting is at 62% with 49% last year and 37% average. Peach harvest is 35%, ahead of last year's 35% and the average of 25%. Apples harvested are at 12%, above last year's 11%, and the 5 year average of 7%.

Crop Condition: State-wide corn condition is 3% very poor, 13% poor, 32% fair, 37% good, and 15% excellent. Oat condition is 4% poor, 25% fair, 52% good, and 19% excellent. Soybean conditions are; 4% poor, 26% fair, 55% good, and 15% excellent. Alfalfa stand conditions are; 6% poor, 24% fair, 50% good, and 20% excellent. Timothy/Clover stand conditions are 7% poor, 31% fair, 57% good, and 5% excellent. The quality of hay made is 1% very poor, 7% poor, 31% fair, 41% good, and 20% excellent. Pasture conditions are at 22% very poor, 26% poor, 27% fair, 22% good and 3% excellent. Peach conditions are 1% poor, 6% fair, 61% good, and 32% excellent. Apple conditions are 4% poor, 20% fair, 43% good, and 33% excellent.

Nationwide as of July 18, 2010: Highlights: With the exception of the Pacific Northwest, where temperatures fell to as many as 6 degrees below normal, near to above average temperatures blanketed much of the country during the week. Most notably, average weekly recordings reached as many as 9 degrees above normal in portions of the Great Basin, Southwest, and New England promoting fieldwork and summer crop development. While abnormally heavy rain fell in areas of Arizona and New Mexico, much of the Nation west of the Rocky Mountains received less than 0.1 inch of precipitation. Elsewhere, widespread rainfall across much of the Southeast provided relief from less than adequate soil moisture levels in some areas. **Corn:** Nationally, 27 percent of this year's corn crop began silking during the week, leaving progress, at 65 percent complete, 35 percentage points ahead of last year and 18 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Near to above average temperatures coupled with adequate soil moisture levels throughout most of the major corn-producing States promoted double-digit silking during the week. Most notably, 31 percent or more of the crop in Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin began silking during the week. By July 18, eight percent of the corn crop was at or beyond the dough stage, 4 percentage points ahead of last year and slightly ahead of the 5-year average. Overall, 72 percent of the corn crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down 1 percentage point from ratings last week but slightly better than the same time last year. **Soybeans:** Favorably warm weather aided rapid crop development across much of the major soybean-producing areas, and by week's end, 60 percent of the soybean crop was at or beyond the blooming stage, 19 percentage points ahead of last year and 4 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Eighteen percent of the Nation's soybean acreage was setting pods by July 18, ten percentage points ahead of last year and 3 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Pod setting was most advanced in the Delta; however overall progress in Louisiana remained slightly behind normal. Overall, 67 percent of the soybean crop was reported in good to excellent condition, up slightly from ratings last week but unchanged from the same time last year. **Winter Wheat:** By July 18, producers had harvested 71 percent of the 2010 winter wheat crop, slightly ahead of last year but 3 percentage points behind the 5-year average. The most significant delay was evident in Nebraska, where despite harvest of 22 percent of the crop during the week, overall progress remained over one week behind normal.

Weather Data For Week Ending July 25, 2010

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - July 25, 2010					
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Northwest												
Erie	91	65	77	6	2.93	6	14.31	0.77	47	1,756	464	2,814
Franklin	93	64	77	7	1.62	6	14.82	-1.12	48	1,683	448	2,742
Meadville	91	63	76	8	2.34	7	16.44	1.24	60	1,603	479	2,656
Mercer	92	64	77	7	2.24	7	16.62	1.41	60	1,682	457	2,752
Springboro	91	61	75	4	1.45	7	18.27	4.75	51	1,492	189	2,502
Warren	89	61	75	6	1.11	5	13.68	-2.07	45	1,532	333	2,572
North Central												
Bradford Region	84	55	72	7	1.67	7	14.42	-1.58	50	1,252	386	2,237
Oswayo	88	55	72	6	2.70	7	15.94	0.53	52	1,249	277	2,221
Kane	87	57	72	7	1.27	7	14.00	-2.06	47	1,232	376	2,207
Laporte	86	60	74	3	1.40	5	11.76	-3.29	58	1,475	240	2,496
Lock Haven	96	65	79	8	1.24	8	10.98	-3.64	39	1,832	517	2,930
Port Allegany	88	59	73	7	1.99	6	13.82	-1.59	50	1,361	389	2,362
Renovo	92	66	77	7	1.96	6	13.52	-1.10	45	1,747	432	2,843
Ridgway	90	60	74	8	2.66	7	14.22	-2.06	49	1,364	392	2,376
Stevenson Dam	91	64	76	9	1.04	3	12.82	-3.46	43	1,636	664	2,713
Towanda	91	61	77	7	0.88	4	10.09	-2.38	42	1,578	332	2,639
Wellsboro	87	58	72	7	1.70	6	12.19	-0.40	46	1,334	421	2,352
Williamsport	93	66	79	7	1.21	7	11.14	-3.53	42	2,041	579	3,169
Northeast												
Hawley	90	59	74	6	2.20	5	12.80	-1.16	43	1,455	410	2,479
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	92	63	79	7	0.73	4	8.22	-5.50	38	1,875	487	2,955
Susquehanna	89	62	75	8	2.07	5	13.89	-1.05	52	1,538	535	2,588
West Central												
Butler	92	64	77	7	2.62	6	19.28	4.30	51	1,639	355	2,708
New Castle	96	65	79	9	3.85	7	17.06	3.20	47	1,823	530	2,907
Slippery Rock	95	63	78	9	2.06	6	16.30	1.61	52	1,700	537	2,781
Central												
Altoona/Blair	91	64	77	6	0.58	4	14.43	0.72	46	1,817	424	2,907
DuBois	91	61	75	6	1.76	6	13.39	-1.74	50	1,618	419	2,689
Lewistown	94	64	79	6	0.32	2	12.13	-2.60	40	1,918	388	3,039
Middletown	96	72	82	7	0.60	3	16.36	2.08	36	2,219	487	3,360
Prince Gallitzi	90	61	75	8	2.42	3	16.39	-0.98	46	1,462	365	2,520
Selinsgrove	95	65	79	8	1.04	3	9.21	-5.50	32	1,878	451	2,987
State College	93	65	79	8	1.23	4	11.44	-2.10	41	1,859	484	2,957
East Central												
Allentown-Bethel	92	64	79	6	1.04	3	17.90	3.13	36	1,993	410	3,103
Lehighton	89	65	77	4	1.05	3	14.92	0.05	38	1,790	273	2,893
Matamoras	90	60	75	3	1.59	4	12.31	-3.28	40	1,624	254	2,691
Mt_Pocono	89	61	75	9	0.25	4	11.13	-5.15	46	1,550	642	2,592
Southwest												
Pittsburgh/Alle	93	68	79	8	0.76	4	14.77	0.34	47	2,050	650	3,153
Indiana_PA	91	65	77	6	1.83	7	16.45	-0.29	57	1,646	299	2,725
Myersdale	87	63	74	4	1.16	4	13.45	-2.90	49	1,302	36	2,328
Mount Pleasant	91	66	78	9	0.16	2	15.85	-0.70	41	1,759	609	2,835
Pittsburgh Intl	93	68	79	8	0.94	6	14.85	1.33	44	1,992	521	3,091
Connellsville	93	68	79	7	0.94	4	16.41	0.45	52	1,925	423	3,024
Waynesburg	92	66	79	8	0.52	2	14.21	-0.48	40	1,802	450	2,882
South Central												
Biglerville	98	68	81	7	0.44	2	9.72	-3.39	30	2,063	359	3,184
Everett	93	64	77	6	0.70	4	13.24	0.06	43	1,681	318	2,766
Hanover	98	67	82	7	1.23	3	9.75	-3.36	37	2,049	345	3,167
Harrisburg_AP	96	70	81	6	0.72	2	15.66	1.38	38	2,163	424	3,297
South Mountain	93	62	77	6	0.59	4	9.52	-4.19	37	1,651	265	2,727
York	95	67	80	6	1.21	3	12.68	-1.87	39	1,991	294	3,104
Southeast												
Green Lane	95	68	81	8	0.49	2	11.89	-2.57	37	2,064	560	3,194
Hamburg	94	66	80	9	1.02	6	16.27	-1.06	40	2,036	674	3,160
West_Chester	95	66	80	6	0.23	3	15.33	-0.90	32	2,020	336	3,140
Lancaster	94	68	81	7	0.32	3	12.54	-2.52	37	2,092	508	3,213
Neshaminy Falls	96	67	82	8	0.68	3	10.86	-5.98	38	2,124	548	3,261
New Holland	96	68	81	7	0.75	5	13.41	-1.65	38	2,101	517	3,221
Philadelphia	97	74	85	8	0.76	2	13.46	-1.13	35	2,530	702	3,687
Philadelphia NE	96	71	84	8	0.64	2	10.83	-3.76	46	2,353	525	3,501
Reading	97	67	82	8	0.80	3	12.79	-3.20	38	2,238	688	3,377
Sellersville	93	65	79	6	0.57	2	13.23	-1.23	38	1,909	405	3,013
Willow Grove	94	69	82	9	1.17	2	12.38	-4.46	32	2,215	639	3,354

DFN = Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).

Precipitation (rainfall or melted snow or ice) and pan evaporation in inches.

Precipitation days = days with precipitation of .01 inch or more.

Air temperatures in degrees fahrenheit.

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REPORTERS COMMENTS, By County

Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.

ADAMS COUNTY, Judy A Behney . Adams County had a hot and humid week of weather. Most days high 80's and some days went into the mid to high 90's. Sporadic downpours occurred across the county in certain areas. On Tuesday, York Springs receive 1.5 - 2 inches in a downpour and then Sunday afternoon a thunderstorm with wind, hail and rain came through the county with various amounts of rainfall. Corn continues to suffer from drought conditions in the majority of the county. Some corn is only knee high but all the corn is starting to come out in tassel. Soybeans in a few areas are showing some drought stress but with sporadic rains the crops are growing. Oats have been harvested and good crops are being reported. Hay continues to be baled but re-growth isn't happening. Peaches and apples are being harvested and all are about 2 weeks earlier than normal harvest. Some fruit has been affected by hailstorms that were received throughout the county since this spring, affecting quality of the fruit. Sweet corn continues to be harvested along with other vegetables, where irrigation was in place. The county is doing okay, but will not have good yields on certain crops. Some corn will have to be chopped for corn silage because it will not produce any corn for grain. The producers have started to contact crop insurance agents so they can get appraisers out to look at their corn crops so they can start to chop here in future weeks to come.

ADAMS COUNTY, Lee Showalter - There were some showers this past week from rapidly moving storms. Most of the fruit areas did not receive enough moisture to break the very dry conditions that exist. The peaches continue to be at least a week early. The flavor is excellent but size is smaller than desired. Apples continue to develop and Gingergold harvest will begin the first week in August.

BUCKS COUNTY, Michael Fournier - Spider mites are becoming a problem in soybeans, due to the excessive heat. We had much-welcomed showers on Sunday; some areas getting more rain than others. Oats are almost done harvesting. Corn and soybeans have responded well to the rain over the past 2 weeks.

CENTRE COUNTY, Dick Decker - The county received showers during the week, which should help top soil moisture levels. There was 2.25 inches of rain for the week in my gauge.

CENTRE COUNTY, Timothy Craul (NRCS) - Severe weather has lodged some oat stands due to localized micro bursts. Overall soil moisture is still low, with recent rains only maintaining current moisture levels.

CLARION COUNTY, Tom Tanner - Crops overall look very good. Wheat and oats crops are in full swing of harvesting. Yields are well above last year but we still need rain.

CRAWFORD COUNTY, Ron McCorkle (NRCS) - Hot and humid conditions, with plenty of weekend rains were just what the crops needed. Soybeans took off in height and making a good canopy. Hay fields and pastures are also starting to green up.

ERIE COUNTY, Nancy L Lewis - This week, high winds downed some oats and corn.

FRANKLIN COUNTY, Thomas Kerr - Continued hot, dry weather is causing a concern for the southern half of Franklin and Adams Counties. Corn has been stunted and now showing signs of extreme moisture stress with leaves being rolled and gray in color. It is too hot for pollination and this will surely cause a significant reduction in yield
on late planted corn.

There were several fields of silage being harvested as they were trying to salvage something. Peaches are being picked; some varieties are as much as 2 weeks ahead of normal.

INDIANA COUNTY, David B. Overdorff - We received lots of rain, but some of it was too fast or too quick for the soil to absorb and it ran off. Great weather for corn and soybeans to grow. Second cutting of hay is looking good to.

LACKAWANNA COUNTY, John Esslinger - Storms over the weekend damaged sweet corn fields. Wildlife damage, especially bird damage, to fruit and vegetable crops has been excessive.

MERCER COUNTY, James P. Rust - Since last Friday 1.4 inches of rainfall has perked up the crops in the area. The 90 plus degree days let up on Sunday. Sweet corn growers had plots ripening quickly these past few days.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, Andrew Frankenfield - Strong storms Sunday afternoon broke the heat-wave, less than a 0.5 inch in most areas of the county. Crops have recovered nicely in the past two weeks; later planted corn looks the best. Pastures and hay fields have greened up, but so have the weeds. Heat stress on dairy and livestock was excessive by the end of the week. Some reports of animal death due to the heat. Haymaking is expected this week with the good weather.

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, Viola Pflieger- The county received 2 inches of rain this past week. Everything looks good on our farms.

SCHUYLKILL COUNTY, Terry Stehr- This was the first rainfall received since July 10, 2010, and it has greened up many of our crop fields. Hay fields are starting to show some re-growth but it is too early to tell if the grain crops will rebound with this much moisture loss.

SNYDER COUNTY, William C. Sheaffer - The recent rains and hot temperatures have generated major improvements in the condition of the corn and soybeans. Barring any unusual weather conditions from now on, there might be a decent harvest. The third cutting of alfalfa will be short. The oats harvest is near completion. Main activities for the week were harvesting, haymaking, baling straw, and mowing CRP and CREP acreages.

SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY, Willie Keeney - The rain at the end of the week has everything looking green again.

TIOGA COUNTY, Pamela Barnes - Rain in the forecast was welcomed by many farmers. Corn growth is progressing well with the needed moisture. Hay making continues with the warmer temperatures. More rain is needed but we are catching up on growth.

WESTMORELAND COUNTY, John Lohr - It was a good harvest week for hay and oats. We got some timely rain to keep crops looking very good.

WESTMORELAND COUNTY, Tom Sierzega (NR) - We had some much needed rain several days during the week. There were spotty showers early in the week with some areas receiving a lot of rain and others receiving none. More general rain toward end of week really has given a jump to the corn and soybeans

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending July 25, 2010

	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn, silk	74	53	62
Corn, dough	9	8	8
Corn average height, inches	75	68	72
Oats, turning yellow	96	85	85
Oats, ripe	71	33	41
Oats, harvested	41	11	16
Alfalfa, 3rd cutting	49	17	23
Timothy clover, 2nd cutting	62	49	37
Peaches, harvested	35	35	25
Apples, harvested	12	11	7

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending July 25, 2010

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	3	13	32	37	15
Oats	0	4	25	52	19
Soybeans	0	4	26	55	15
Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures stand	0	6	24	50	20
Timothy clover stand	0	7	31	57	5
Quality of hay made	1	7	31	41	20
Pasture	22	26	27	22	3
Peaches	0	1	6	61	32
Apples	0	4	20	43	33

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